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New Mexico Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb reports

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Report of the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, <December 1, 1900 to November 30, 1902>-two years ending November 30, 1904

Report of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, <fiscal year ending November 30, 1906>

LLMC 01-829t

EXHIBIT "Z."

REPORT

OF THE

ASYLUM FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB

From December 1. 1900 to
November 30, 1902.

REPORT.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

OFFICERS.

RUFUS J. PALEN, President. BENJ. M. READ, Secretary.

MEMBERS.

J FRANCISCO CHAVES, Supt. Public Instruction, SAMUEL G. CARTWRIGHT, BENJ. M. READ, FRED. MULLER, RUFUS J. PALEN.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEW MEXICO ASYLUM FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.
SANTA FE, N. M., December 17, 1902.

To the Hon. Miguel A. Otero, Governor of New Mexico, Santa Fe, N. M.:

SIR: The Board of Trustees of the New Mexico Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb respectfully submits the following as a full and detailed report of all its doings and actions during the past two years, with an itemized statement of all expenditures, and closing with such recommendations as appear to the board necessary and advisable.

Owing to the lack of any appropriation for the maintenance of the asylum for the past two years, the board was compelled to close it in June, 1901, and the statement of expenditures submitted covers only the period from the date of our last biennial report in November, 1900, to June, 1901, as far as the expenditures for the maintenance of the school are concerned. Exhibit I gives a full and itemized statement of the receipts and expenditures both in the maintenance and permanent funds to the date of this report.

The proceeds of the sale of lands donated by the United States to the Territory for the asylum, being in the judgment of the board, sufficient to warrant the beginning of a suitable building for the asylum, and as the building heretofore used

was deemed entirely inadequate, in June 1902, I. H. and W. M. Rapp, architects of East Las Vegas, N. M., were employed by the board to prepare the proper plans and specifications for the proposed new building, and to superintend its construction. Proposals for bids were duly advertised in Albuquerque, Las Vegas and Santa Fe, and after due consideration of the bids, submitted, the contract was awarded to A. Windsor, of Santa Fe, at the price of eleven thousand, three hundred dollars. The contract does not include the lighting, plumbing, heating, furnishing nor the special equipment for the instruction of the pupils, nor the finishing of the attic and basement. The contractor soon began work on the building on a tract of land containing nearly five acres, adjoining the lands of the asylum, and purchased from the Woman's Board of Trade of Santa Fe for the sum of three hundred dollars. The board was unable to secure a suitable addition to the old lot in the way of frontage on the road, except at a price beyond its resources, and hence was under the necessity of making the purchase of the adjoining lot, which rounds out the land of the asylum in good shape, and furnishes a desirable building site. Had the site of the building been an open one, that is, if the Territory had not already acquired the old site and building, the board would have preferred to select an entirely new location for the building, owing to the proximity of the old site to a cemetery, a penitentiary, to one railroad and another about to be built, the course of which is laid down as passing through a corner of the asylum lands. The building is still in course of construction, as owing to the delay in getting brick, the walls and roof were not completed in time to plaster before the coming of cold weather, and it was deemed best to delay plastering till spring. The building is of Romanesque treatment, it has a frontage of ninety-eight feet and a depth of sixty feet, it is three stories high, and has a basement under the entire building. Each floor has about forty-five hundred square feet, and the building has about eighteen thousand square feet available space.

The first and second floors of this building will be finished under the contract, but the funds available for construction are not sufficient to finish the attic and basement. To make

use of the building for the purposes for which it is intended, there must be immediate provision for the finishing of the attic and basement, for electric wiring and lighting, plumbing, heating, furnishing and special equipment for the deaf and dumb, and for laying out and improving the grounds, making fences, garden, planting trees and shrubbery, and the board estimates the amount requisite for these purposes to be nine thousand dollars, and respectfully requests you to recommend to the legislature a special appropriation of the amount to be made available as speedily as possible, in order that the building may be completed and furnished and equipped, and the school opened as promptly as possible. You will remember that owing to the omission of any appropriation for the maintenance of the asylum by the legislature two years ago, the sum of six thousand dollars has been saved in the appropriations of the past two years, as the usual annual appropriation for the asylum heretofore, was three thousand dollars a year, and now that the board asks that the legislature grant this six thousand dollars saved from maintenance, for the purpose of permanent improvements, and to enable the board to fully carry out its designs and make the building complete in all respects, and fully equipped for the purposes for which it is intended, to add thereto the sum of three thousand dollars, making a total as stated, of nine thousand dollars for the final completion and equipment of the building and for the proper laying out of the grounds. A detailed estimate of the expenditures for which this nine thousand dollars is needed, is given in Exhibit II.

As to the proper annual appropriation to be made for the maintenance of the asylum for the balance of the 54th fiscal year and for the 55th fiscal year, the board estimates that seventy five hundred dollars per annum is necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the asylum, and the estimate of the necessary expenditure for which this sum is required, is submitted in Exhibit III. This is considerable in excess of the sum heretofore appropriated for this purpose, but with the new building, incidental expenses and maintenance must necessarily increase, and the board is of the opinion that its occupation should also mark the beginning of a more liberal provision for the education and training of the unfortunates

for whom it is intended. The United States has made a liberal land donation for the asylum, and it is thought that eventually quite an income from the proper investment of the proceeds of additional sales will be available for the future maintenance of the asylum, meanwhile it will be creditable to the territory to provide for the expense of the asylum to an extent showing its appreciation of the generosity of the general government. The superintendent of the asylum should be a man possessed of the full power of speech, as well as familiar with the sign language, and with all the other methods of communication with the deaf and dumb; this is necessary to enable him to be in constant and easy intercourse with the board concerning the business management of the asylum, and to effect the best results of such management. The board has nothing but the most friendly feeling for those who have been charged with the superintendency of the asylum in the past, and it is its intention to avail itself of their services in the future conduct of the asylum, but the experience of the board in the past has strongly impressed it with the need of a superintendent in charge, who is not hampered in his intercourse with the outside world by inability to speak. It is believed that the estimate made in Exhibit III is as carefully and economically made as is consistent with the needs and requirements of the institution.

The deaf and dumb population of the territory, of school age, according to the census of 1890—the details of the census of 1900 on this point, not being yet available—is from seventy-five to eighty; the highest number that has at any one time attended the asylum is about twenty, and the board in its estimate has gone in the belief of having twenty-five as a minimum attendance in the future, with a tendency to increase toward fifty, as the capacity and fitness of the school become better known and understood.

In Exhibit IV a statement of the present property of the asylum and its estimated value is given.

As to recommendations beyond what may be already herein given, the board is of the opinion that Section 3, Chapter 41, Laws of the Thirty-third Legislative Assembly, should be amended by removing therefrom so much of the section as exacts a minimum payment of two hundred and twenty-five

dollars for the school year, on the basis of nine months for such year, for deaf or mute children from other states and territories and Indian children under the control of U. S. Indian agents, and that the terms on which such pupils may be admitted to the asylum, be left discretionary with the board, with power to contract for such pupils on the best terms obtainable without loss to the Territory.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. FRANCISCO CHAVES,
Superintendent of Public Instruction.
BENJAMIN M. READ.
FRED MULLER.
SAMUEL G. CARTWRIGHT.
RUFUS J. PALEN.

Exhibit I.

Itemized statement of receipts and expenditures in Maintenance and Permanent funds for the two years ended November 30th, 1902.

MAINTENANCE FUND.

1900		
Nov. 1	To balance on hand date of last report	$ 1,056 43
	Receipts from all sources to Dec. 1, 1902	3,271 17
	Total to be accounted for	$ 4,327 60

EXPENDITURES.

By	amount paid out in month of November, 1900, part of former fiscal year, not included in last report	$ 83 30
By	amount paid for support of indigent pupils and salary of Superintendent and Matron	2,014 45
	Water and light	134 70
	Fuel	41 50
	Fire insurance	90 00
	Supplies, medicine, medical attendance, clothing, shoes	128 30
	Stationery, printing, postage and hack hire	24 09
	Transportation of indigent pupils	30 70
	Office rent	115 00
	Postoffice box rent	12 00
	Night watchman	17 00
	Incidental expenses	5 75
1902	Total expenditures	$ 2,696 79

Dec. 1 By balance on hand		1,630 81
		$ 4,327 60

PERMANENT FUND.

1902		
June 6 To requisition on Auditor		$12,686 71

EXPENDITURES.

By amount paid for land		$ 300 00
Expense connected with land purchase		21 90
Water pipe line		135 86
Advertising proposals for bids		25 50
Contractor on building and materials		5,520 98
Architects for plans and supervision		577 05
Total expenditures		$ 6,581 29
Dec. 1 By balance on hand		6,105 42
		$12,686 71
Balance maintenance fund	$ 1,630 81	
Balance permanent fund	6,105 42	
Total balance	$ 7,736 23	

Exhibit II.

Estimate of expenditures necessary for the completion, furnishing and equipping of the building now in course of construction, and for laying out and improving the grounds.

For finishing the attic and basement	$ 2,500 00
For electric wiring, converter, lamps, etc.	240 00
For plumbing	800 00
For heating	2,500 00
For furnishing	1,600 00
For special equipment for deaf and dumb	500 00
For laying out, improving and planting the grounds	500 00
For fencing, gates etc	500 00
Total	$ 9,140 00

Exhibit III.

Estimate of amount required for the maintenance of the asylum for the balance of the 54th fiscal year and for the 55th fiscal year.

FOR THE BALANCE OF THE 54TH FISCAL YEAR, MAY 1 TO NOV. 30, 1903.

For salary of superintendent	$ 1,166 67
For salary of teacher	525 00
For salary of matron	175 00
For wages of cook	140 00
For wages of janitor	280 00

For water	100 00
For fuel	80 00
For support of twenty-five pupils	1,750 00
For clothing	125 00
For transportation	100 00
For fire insurance, five year rate on $10,000	450 00
For incidental expenses	250 33
Total	$ 5,142·00

FOR THE 55TH FISCAL YEAR, DEC. 1, 1903 TO NOV. 30, 1904.

For salary of superintendent	$ 2,000 00
For salary of teacher	675 00
For salary of matron	225 00
For wages of cook	180 00
For wages of janitor	480 00
For water	200 00
For fuel	200 00
For support of twenty-five pupils	2,250 00
For clothing	250 00
For transportation of pupils to and from their homes	200 00
For incidental expenses	500 00
Total	$ 7,160 00

Exhibit IV.

Statement of the property of the asylum and its estimated value.

The real estate consists of some eight or ten acres of land, the new asylum and the old three-story brick building, all of the value of about $18,000.00.

The personal property, such as books, maps, all very old, and a small library of the value of about $500. Total, $18,500.00.